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BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

JIM IRVIN
Commissioner - Chairman
RENZ D. JENNINGS
Commissioner
CARL J. KUNASEK
Commissioner

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION)
OF SULPHUR SPRINGS VALLEY)
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC. - FILING)
FOR AN EXTENSION OF TIME IN WHICH)
TO FILE ITS UNBUNDLED SERVICE)
TARIFFS)

DOCKET NO. E-01575A-97-0706

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION)
OF SULPHUR SPRINGS VALLEY)
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC. - FILING)
FOR AN EXTENSION OF THE TIME IN)
WHICH TO FILE ITS RATE FOR)
RECOUPMENT OF SYSTEM BENEFITS)
CHARGES)

DOCKET NO. E-01575A-97-0759

DECISION NO. 60582ORDER
Arizona Corporation Commission

DOCKETED

Open Meeting
January 13 and 14, 1998
Phoenix, Arizona

JAN 14 1998

BY THE COMMISSION:

DOCKETED BY

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On December 12, 1997, Sulphur Springs Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc. (SSVEC) submitted a request for extension of time in which to file its unbundled tariffs as required by A.A.C. R14-2-1606.C.

2. On December 29, 1997, SSVEC submitted a request for an extension of the time in which to file its rate for recoupment of system benefits charges.

3. Staff has reviewed the requests for extension.

4. Affected utilities have known since December 26, 1996, that the subject filings were due at the end of 1997. There are twelve affected utilities which include Arizona's investor-owned utilities as well as Arizona's electric cooperatives.

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6. The need for adequate time is the reason why the rules require a December 31, 1997, filing date. Because all affected utilities will be filing unbundled tariffs, customer selection plans, system benefits charge calculations, stranded cost calculations, and possibly standard offer tariffs, it is imperative that all affected utilities are strictly held to filing schedules.

7. Failure to allow adequate time for proper evaluation, adequate public notice, and a reasonable review process could have an impact on the start of retail electric competition in Arizona. Requiring prompt filing of required items would allow Staff, as well as other intervenors, adequate time for thoughtful and prudent review and processing of all filings.

8. If the Arizona Corporation Commission (Commission) were to grant the waivers as requested by one-half of the twelve affected utilities, the result would require the Commission to delay review of certain retail electric competition filings until later in 1998, precipitating scheduling difficulties.

9. Staff has recommended that the requests for waivers from the Rules be denied and that the applicant be ordered to provide the required filings immediately.

10. Further, Staff has recommended that if the filings are not made by January 30, 1998, that the Commission direct Staff to evaluate the circumstances behind the failure(s) to file and make recommendations for specific sanctions to be imposed on the applicant if it believes that sanctions are warranted.

1. SSVEC is an Arizona public service corporation within the meaning of Article XV, Section 2, of the Arizona Constitution.

2. The Commission has jurisdiction over SSVEC and over the subject matter of these dockets.

3. Staff's recommendations contained in Findings of Fact Nos. 9 and 10 are reasonable and should be adopted.

ORDER

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that the requests are denied.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Sulphur Springs Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc., shall file its unbundled tariffs and system benefits charges immediately.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that if the filings are not made on or before the close of business on February 13, 1998, Staff shall evaluate the circumstances behind the failure(s) to file and make recommendations for specific sanctions to be imposed on the applicant if it believes that sanctions are warranted.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Decision shall become effective immediately.

BY ORDER OF THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION


COMMISSIONER - CHAIRMAN


COMMISSIONER


COMMISSIONER

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, JACK ROSE, Executive Secretary of the Arizona Corporation Commission, have hereunto, set my hand and caused the official seal of this Commission to be affixed at the Capitol, in the City of Phoenix, this 14th day of January 1998.


JACK ROSE
Executive Secretary

DISSENT _____

DPI:BG:rk/CCK

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